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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 27, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 22 totaled an estimated 18.2 billion ton-miles, 17.7 percent above the corresponding period a year ago.

Cumulative volume for the first 42 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 668.7 billion ton-miles, 2.6 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 22 totaled 409,217 cars, 14.1 percent over 1982, and 2.4 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 10.7 percent in the East, 9.1 percent in the South and 19.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 17 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with metallic ores showing an increase of 8,703 cars, or 72.2 percent; motor vehicles and equipment up 5,666 cars, or 40.1 percent; and nonmetallic minerals up 3,366 cars, or 35.7 percent. Fifteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 15 totaled 49,224 cars, up 23.2 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 85,985 trailers and/or containers, 20.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 41 weeks of the year was 1,828,582 cars, 21.6 percent higher than last year, and 3,160,589 trailers and/or containers, up 18.6 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/22/83:

	Loadings in Week ended October 22, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	30,322	I	6,281	26.1	D	2,226	6.8
Other farm products	6,255	I	1,481	31.0	I	138	2.3
Metallic ores	20,758	I	8,703	72.2	I	3,624	21.2
Coal	114,617	I	3,760	3.4	I	4,858	4.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,321	I	1,595	16.4	D	726	6.0
Nonmetallic minerals	12,805	I	3,366	35.7	D	1,257	8.9
Grain mill products	12,022	D	441	3.5	I	21	0.2
Food and kindred products	12,282	D	1,218	9.0	I	79	0.6
Primary forest products	14,904	I	49	0.3	I	361	2.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,421	I	1,042	16.3	I	65	0.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,147	D	612	3.9	I	814	5.7
Chemicals and allied products	24,628	I	4,273	21.0	I	255	1.0
Petroleum products	4,797	I	38	0.8	I	258	5.7
Stone, clay and glass products	11,557	I	1,327	13.0	I	55	0.8
Coke	4,940	I	773	18.6	I	199	4.2
Metals and products	8,840	I	1,781	25.2	I	31	0.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,795	I	5,666	40.1	I	401	2.1
Waste and scrap materials	9,014	I	1,142	14.5	D	222	2.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,258	I	2,223	27.7	D	61	0.6
All other carloads	57,248	I	10,054	21.3	I	2,782	5.1
LCL traffic	286	D	826	74.3	D	39	12.0
Total Cars Loaded	409,217	I	50,457	14.1	I	9,410	2.4

Corresponding week of 1982 358,760

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (42 weeks)	15,194,852	15,290,893	D 0.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
41 weeks ended October 15	650.4	636.5	I 2.2
Week ended October 22	18.2	15.5	I 17.7
42 weeks cumulative	668.7	652.0	I 2.6

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